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Cleveland Museum of Art Premieres Nine New International Films

CLEVELAND (Jan. 6, 2003) — The Cleveland Museum of Art will present the Cleveland premieres of nine new films from around the world in January and February. Works from Germany, China, Britain, Poland, the United States, South Korea and Canada will be featured. Admission to each program is $7 ($5 museum members).

Kicking off the January films will be *Absolut Warhola* (Germany, Jan. 8 and 10), a wry, affectionate portrait of a Slovakian village where Andy Warhol's parents were born and which claims the artist as its own. The groundbreaking *Lan Yu* (China, Jan. 15 and 17), set against the Tiananmen Square massacre and shot without government permission, chronicles the clandestine love affair between a successful urban businessman and an architecture student. *Very Annie-Mary* (Britain, Jan. 22 and 26) focuses on a gawky, lonely young women who attempts to resume a singing career interrupted by her mother's illness. *The Farewell* (Germany/Poland, Jan. 29 and 31) focuses on the ailing playwright Bertolt Brecht as he bickers with his wife, daughter, friends and three mistresses shortly before his 1956 death.

In celebration of Black History Month, the museum will offer the double feature *Strange Fruit* and *Hughes' Dream Harlem* (United States, Feb. 5 and 7). The first film chronicles the history of jazz great Billie Holiday's famous anti-lynching song of the same title, while the second explores links between Langston Hughes' jazz-inspired poetry and today's hip-hop culture and spoken word movement.

In the comedy *The Chateau* (United States, Feb. 12 and 16), a neurotic slacker from Kansas and his go-getter, African-American adopted brother attempt to sell their inherited, dilapidated and debt-ridden French chateau against the wishes of its French staff. *Take Care of My Cat* (South Korea, Feb. 19 and 23) focuses on five high school girlfriends who struggle to maintain their friendship, remaining linked by cell phones and a stray cat they all care for. The documentary *Schmelvis: Searching for the King's Jewish Roots* (Canada, Feb. 26 and Mar. 2) follows a Montreal-based Elvis impersonator who performs Elvis Presley songs in a Jewish musical style as he makes a pilgrimage to Memphis in a Winnebago to perform Kaddish at Elvis' grave.

The Cleveland Museum of Art receives operating support from the Ohio Arts Council.

The Cleveland Museum of Art is one of America's leading comprehensive museums. Its permanent collection is world renowned for its quality and breadth, spanning 5,000 years. The museum is a significant international forum for exhibitions, scholarship and art acquisitions. For more information on the museum, its holdings, programs, services and events, call 1-888-CMA-0033 or visit www.ClevelandArt.org.

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